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**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**  
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January 22, 2010

Dean Nishina  
Executive Director  
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
Division of Consumer Advocacy  
P. O. Box 541  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

Re: Docket No. 2008-0274 – Proceeding to Investigate Implementing a Decoupling Mechanism for Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., Hawaii Electric Light Company, Inc., and Maui Electric Company, Limited

Dear Mr. Nishina:

The Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") is in receipt of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Division of Consumer Advocacy's ("Consumer Advocate") letter dated and filed on December 3, 2009, in which the Consumer Advocate requested a one-week extension of time (from December 4, 2009 to December 11, 2009) to file a response to the HECO Companies'<sup>1</sup> Motion for Interim Approval of a Decoupling Mechanism, which was filed on November 25, 2009 ("HECO Companies' Motion"). The Consumer Advocate stated in its letter:

Considering the complexity and length of HECO Companies' Motion, numerous scheduling conflicts, and heavy workload, the Consumer Advocate will need additional time to meet and confer with its consultants and analysts to develop a written response to the Motion. In the interest of time, the Consumer Advocate has notified HECO Companies and represents that the HECO Companies do not object to this request.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>"HECO Companies" refers to Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., Hawaii Electric Light Company, Inc., and Maui Electric Company, Limited.

<sup>2</sup>Letter dated and filed on December 3, 2009, from the Consumer Advocate to the Commission, at 1.

The Commission will treat the Consumer Advocate's December 3, 2009 letter as a motion for an extension of time ("Motion") under Hawaii Administrative Rules ("HAR") §§ 6-61-23 and 6-61-41. HAR § 6-61-23(a)(1) allows the Commission to enlarge a period by which a required act must be completed upon a showing of good cause provided that a written request is made before the expiration of the period originally prescribed.<sup>3</sup>

Upon review, the Commission grants the Motion and approves the Consumer Advocate's request for an extension of time to December 11, 2009, for the Consumer Advocate to file a response to the HECO Companies' Motion.<sup>4</sup>

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kaiulani Shinsato at 586-2019.

Sincerely,



Carlito P. Caliboso  
Chairman

CPC:KKS:ps

c: Dean K. Matsuura  
Warren S. Bollmeier II  
Carl Freedman  
Gerald A. Sumida, Esq.  
Gregg J. Kinkley, Esq.  
Mark Duda  
Douglas A. Codiga, Esq.

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<sup>3</sup>Motions that do not involve the final determination of a proceeding may be determined by the chairperson or commissioner. See HAR § 6-61-41(e).

<sup>4</sup>The Consumer Advocate filed its comments on the HECO Companies' Motion on December 11, 2009.